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the Martlet

The student newspaper of the University of Victoria since 1948

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Thursday, June 20, 1996

Safeway Strike Affects Students

by Maura Parte

On June 3, the UVSS Board of Directors passed a motion to support members of the United Food and Commercial Workers who have been locked out of work since Save On/Overwaitea and Safeway stores closed their doors on May 30.

Directors were encouraged to support workers at the four Victoria Safeway outlets and one Save On Foods. To date, Director of Services Sonia Manak and directors at large Rob Fleming and Sebastian Troen have visited Victoria stores. Directors at large Leigh Phillips and Steve Yung are in Vancouver for the summer and have visited stores there.

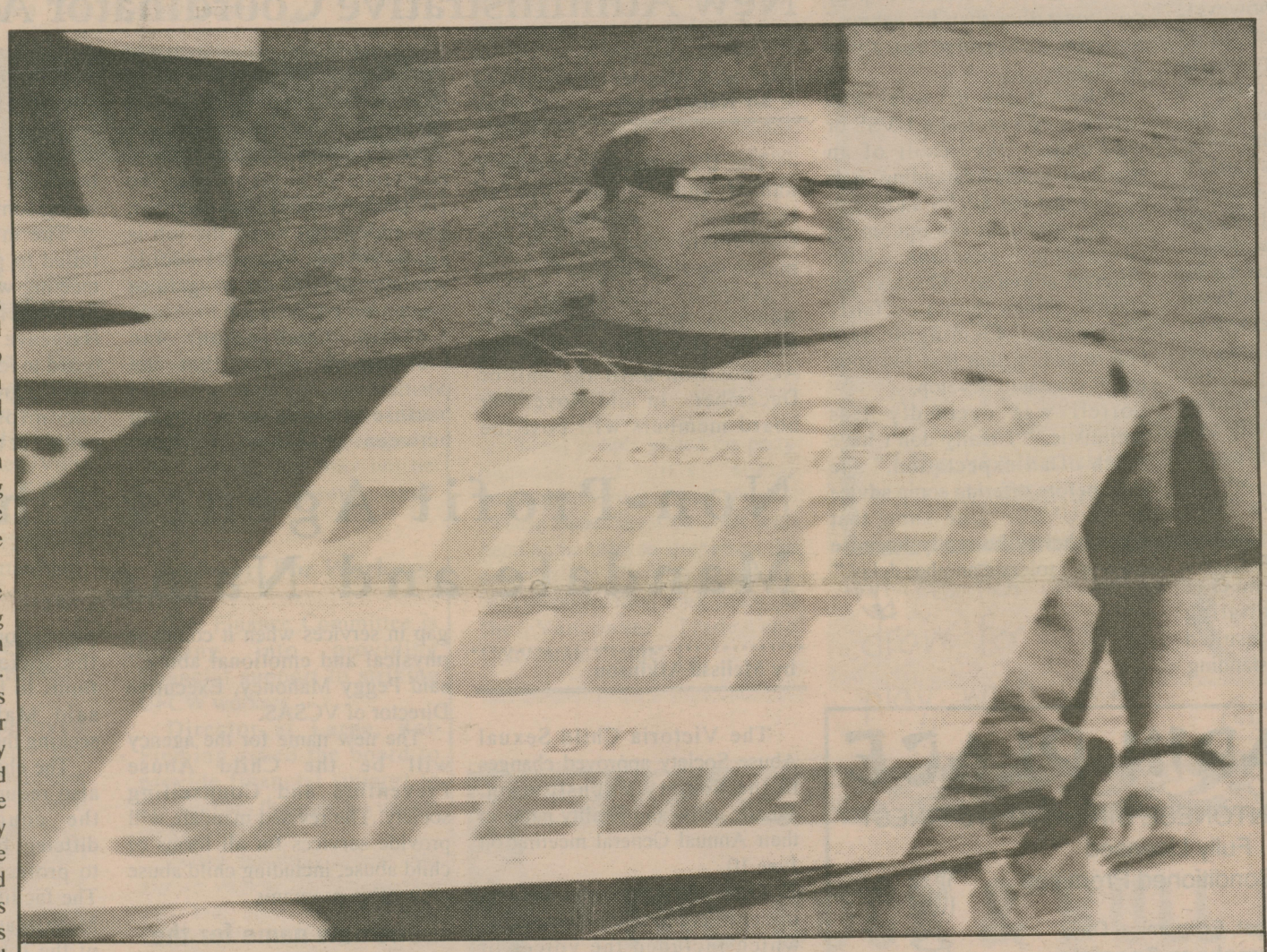
UFCW members are currently collecting only $100 a week from the union's strike fund. This has serious implications for students employed by Overwaitea and Safeway who are hoping to save money for tuition fees in the fall. The UFCW did not have exact estimates on how many students are currently employed by the food chain.

UVSS Director Rob Fleming believes that this should be an issue of concern for all students. "Many students are employed in the retail and service sector and a lowering of wage standards would have a ripple effect on the rest of the industry," said Fleming.

The Canadian Federation of Students has encouraged student unions in British Columbia to support the locked out supermarket workers. "Students are being told that future employment prospects in British Columbia will be in the service industry and at the same time service industry wages are being slashed," said BC Chairperson, Michael Gardiner.

Between June 10 and 12, over 12,000 employees locked out by Save On/Overwaitea and Safeway voted overwhelmingly to reject the grocery chain's final contract offer. Workers rejected the offer by 86% despite a media blitz financed by Save On/Overwaitea and Safeway. Full page ads appeared in the Vancouver Sun and Times Colonist. Both radio and television also featured advertisements presenting the company's side of the dispute.

Last week, Save On/Overwaitea sent out videos to over 7,000 locked out employees, explaining the company's position. In the video, President Brian Piwek urged Save On/Overwaitea employees to accept the final offer. He warned that the lock out would continue if they did not. He stressed the need to remain competitive in a volatile and changing market. Piwek added that although Save On/Overwaitea has been earning record profits, if they didn't reduce labour cost they would not remain a profitable company. Last year's reported profits from 38 Safeway stores in B.C. are $378 million.



Striking Safeway worker at University Heights. The strike may continue until September. photo Cory Monahan

The dispute centers around the company's final offer, which included a voluntary buy-out option for full-time employees. Bought-out hours would then be offered to new employees, with a starting wage of $8 (two dollars less than the current starting wage). In addition, new employee wages would top out at $10 an hour. Under the current agreement part-time employees can earn up to approximately $21, while the top wage for full time employees is just over $19 an hour with an increased benefits package.

The UFCW has argued that the company's offer will create a two-tiered system where new employees, hired at lower wages, would take the hours from senior employees who took the buy-out option. There is also concern that the bottom half of the part-time workers would not have same access to hours. The offer also includes a cut to benefits for full time hours which could impact the amount of hours offered to part-time employees.

The B.C. dispute is one of many that Safeway Foods has been involved in over the last few years. Currently, employees at the Safeway chain in Colorado are entering their fifth week locked out. The grocery store's business has continued because there is no legislation in that state to prevent the hiring of replacement workers .Workers in Victoria are apprehensive about how long the lock out will continue.

One Camosun student, who has been locked out of the Victoria Save On, said, "I was planning to work two part-time jobs this summer and bank as much money as I could to save for tuition, and with the $100 a week pay I am just getting by." The recent decision to reject the final offer means he could be locked out for the entire summer. If so he will be forced to find work elsewhere in order to finance his education. "It's disgusting that they are making so much profit from a basic necessity like food," he said.

Fee Creates Two-Tiered System

by Maura Parte

New students coming to the University of Victoria this fall will have to pay a $20 fee to fully participate in UVic's orientation and front of the line services during the Week of Welcome.

Students who do not pay the $20 fee will be unable to participate in the "front of the line" day. On this day those who have paid the fee will have access to services such as the bookstore, financial aid, parking, and student ID cards, without having to wait in line. It normally includes the bus pass program, but that is administered through the UVSS in the SUB, and the BoD has not committed to including it.

For the past two years UVic has had the distinction of being one of the few universities in Canada to not charge fees for orientation services. Student and Ancillary Services cites a lack of revenue for the introduction of the fee.

UVSS Director of Services, Sonia Manak, is concerned that the $20 fee will create a two-tiered system for students needing an orientation to campus life. At the May 28 BoD meeting, a motion opposing the $20 fee was passed unanimously. Since then, a letter has been forwarded by the BoD to Student and Ancillary Services stating their concerns over charging students to participate in orientation.

The BoD had a voting seat on the university's orientation committee last winter when planning began, but the UVSS representative did not attend. Sue Corner was representing SUB Services on the committee and voted against the fee based on the BoD's previous positions on fees.

"The Society supported the front of the line day when it was accessible for all students, but we are unsure whether we will be participating now," said Manak.

Students who do not pay the $20 fee will still be able to participate in some orientation activities, but only those who can afford the fee will receive the extra services. The provincial government's freeze on tuition fees for the 1996/97 academic year included a freeze on ancillary fees, or fees for services. By not making the fee mandatory, UVic has discovered a way to generate revenue from students without violating the imposed freeze.

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Union Negotiations May Be a Knock-out Brawl

by Tim Theroux

Despite some early confusion and mild controversy, representatives of the UVSS and the United Steelworkers union have agreed to begin negotiations on June 19th. The two sides will attempt to forge an agreement concerning the terms of employment for staff at the SUB, whose contract expired at the end of May.

Preliminary discussions took place on June 5th and ended with the union submitting its package of proposals to management.

Controversy arose, however, when shrewd observers noted some peculiarities surrounding the UVSS's negotiating committee. In particular, it was not until the day after the initial talks that the panel was ratified by the BoD, leading some to suggest that management was not taking the negotiations seriously.

This sentiment was echoed by Angie Sorrell, President of Local 9288 of the Steelworkers, who will conduct negotiations on behalf of SUB employees alongside area representative Jack Hill. "We didn't really care who was on the committee. It was more the timing," Sorrell said, "They should've been prepared."

According to Ian Flemington, Chair of the BoD and member of the UVSS negotiating committee, the jumble resulted from an honest misunderstanding and was not indicative of any nonchalance on the part of management. Because the BoD was unclear as to when negotiations were to begin, it was therefore forced to respond hastily.

Flemington also said that the panel's membership was decided in advance of the June 5th meeting and that the late ratification was only necessary to iron-out some administrative technicalities. "We established the committee's membership by position rather than by names," he said, "to allow for some flexibility."

Whether the disorder was evidence of a cocksure UVSS or was simply the result of an innocent misunderstanding, it is certain that the UVSS and USW are approaching the upcoming bargaining sessions with different attitudes. "Once we get started, things should go fairly efficiently," Flemington said before adding that it is too soon to tell what will develop.

Sorrell was decidedly less optimistic. "I really don't have much of an expectation," she said, before offering some advice to the UVSS. "I do know that they'd better be ready because we won't tolerate another delay."

BoD Executive in happier times before negotiations.

photo Kelly Sundeberg

New Administrative Coordinator Appointed

by Robin Pridy

The UVic board of directors named Judy Guthrie to the temporary Administrative Coordinator position at a last minute meeting, on June 6.

Guthrie, previously the Business Operations Division Manager of the SUB, will fill the AC position until the end of December. In mid-November board members will post the position as full-time and go through the formal hiring process again.

Guthrie said that her position is interim in order to help the UVSS deal with a busy summer. She added that when the job is again posted, she will decide whether she will apply again or resume her previous job.

UVSS Chairperson, Ian Flemington, stated that the position was not made part-time because of the lawsuit pending between previous AC, Ross McKinnon and the UVSS. Flemington added that the position was filled on a temporary basis only because the board did not yet feel confident in hiring someone full-time.

The motion to hire Guthrie failed to pass at an earlier BoD meeting when Directors-at-Large Sebastien Troen and Erika Hargeave left early causing the board to lose quorum. Both Troen and Hargreave said that they felt uncomfortable voting on the motion at the time.

Non-Profit Agency Changes Mandate and Name

by Melissa Atkinson

The Victoria Child Sexual Abuse Society approved changes to the Society's constitution, agency name and facility name at their Annual General meeting on June 10.

These changes come after an in-depth community discussion, which included the voices of abused children, their families and other community agencies.

"Our clients told us that they do not want to go to different agencies for different abuse issues. They also pointed out the gap in services when it comes to physical and emotional abuse," said Peggy Mahoney, Executive Director of VCSAS.

The new name for the agency will be the Child Abuse Prevention and Counselling society. The revised mandate will provide services for all forms of child abuse, including child abuse prevention programs.

The new name for the agency will be the Child Abuse Prevention & Counselling Society

"Until now, our focus has been counselling. But in order to end all forms of child abuse in our community, we must expand our mandate to emphasize prevention," said Arla Sinclair, chair of the society's Board of Directors.

Recently, the society's counsellors completed special training to help them deliver prevention programs. "Presently, the society does not have the funds to begin these programs," said Mahoney, "but we are seeking the funds."

The children and their families also requested that the name of the counselling facility be different from the society in order to protect their confidentiality. The facility will be known as the Mary Manning Centre, after one of the founding members of the society.

Mary Manning was a retired nurse who, in 1982, helped to organize the first child sexual abuse clinic in Victoria. The demand for such an agency was so great it quickly grew into a facility with a staff of thirteen people.

"By naming the facility after Mary Manning, we have ensured that our history and her inspiration are not forgotten," said Sinclair.

Changes to the society will be implemented this fall.

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Panhandling Bylaws Put Profit Ahead of Human Life

by Kevin Woodley

Victoria council's Downtown Advisory Committee will spend this week reviewing recommendations from the Alternative Task Force on Panhandling.

The recommendations were released at a downtown press conference on June 12.

The release answers a list of recommendations put forward by the Downtown Victoria Association geared towards the complete elimination of panhandling. The council committee has already reviewed the DVA recommendations.

Among the DVA plans were specific anti-panhandling bylaws, increased policing with a "no tolerance attitude", business control over sidewalks, and several public awareness campaigns.

By leasing sidewalk space to stores the DVA would be giving owners the right to remove panhandlers from their property.

Solutions like this are unacceptable to members of the Alternative Task Force. They are concerned that these types of plans put profit ahead of human life.

Plans for yet another public awareness campaign have already begun.

The DVA plan called for posters in parkades, bus shelters, and buses, as well as permanent signs in downtown Victoria.

Content of the upcoming campaign has not been released by City council.

Reform Party Avoids Confrontation

by Terry Clement

According to visiting professor Bruce Foster, the reform party avoided confrontation at their weekend convention by focusing on market driven issues.

"A well scripted and managed convention successfully avoided the controversies between the right wing and moderate elements of the party," said Foster.

The convention centered on what it would take to win the next election, rather than on social issues.

Foster, a political science professor, is an expert in the roots of the Reform Party and the circumstances and attitudes that led to the party's creation.

He forecast the party's assembly as an opportunity for a showdown between party leader Preston Manning's vision and the vision of the Reform's grassroot membership.

The showdown never fully developed as expected.

Members were expected to tackle the social conservative issues, such as pro-life and pro family. "These two issues are central to the roots of the Reform Party," said Foster.

"Many people joined the party because of it's social conservative roots," said Foster. "These issues must be dealt with head on in order to strengthen the party."

The convention took place at the Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre.

BOD Briefs

by Kevin Woodley

BoD Welcomes New Resource Coordinator

BoD Chairperson, Ian Flemington introduced and welcomed Joan Sharpe as the new Resource Coordinator. Sharpe has been with the UVSS for over four years, as a worker in the SUBtext bookstore. The position was ratified unanimously by the attending directors.

Capital Replacement Items To Be Purchased

The board approved recomendations from the finance committee to purchase several items for use in and around the SUB. The list, which came with a $19,500 price tag, included a commercial barbeque, 4 white patio tables, and lighting for the dance floor at Vertigo.

Union representative, Angie Sorrell expressed concern over the finance committee's use of the term "priority items" when describing the list. Finance Director, Conrad Thompson assured Sorrell that there was enough money left to address other requested items.

Trial Up In The Air

The future of the Finance position on the UVSS remains uncertain.

A date for Tim McGuire's lawsuit, against the former UVSS, has not been set.

When asked about the situation, Conrad Thompson said that the trial may not be heard in the courts until September.

Support For Workers

The Finance Committee is looking into providing financial support to striking UFCW workers.

Director at Large, Rob Fleming asked the board to provide financial support to the workers through the unions strike relief fund.

Board members agreed the matter should be considered, but felt that the Finance Committee should review the situation before any decisions are made.

Letter of Support

BoD members agreed to send a letter supporting First Nation efforts for recognition at this weekends First Ministers Conference.

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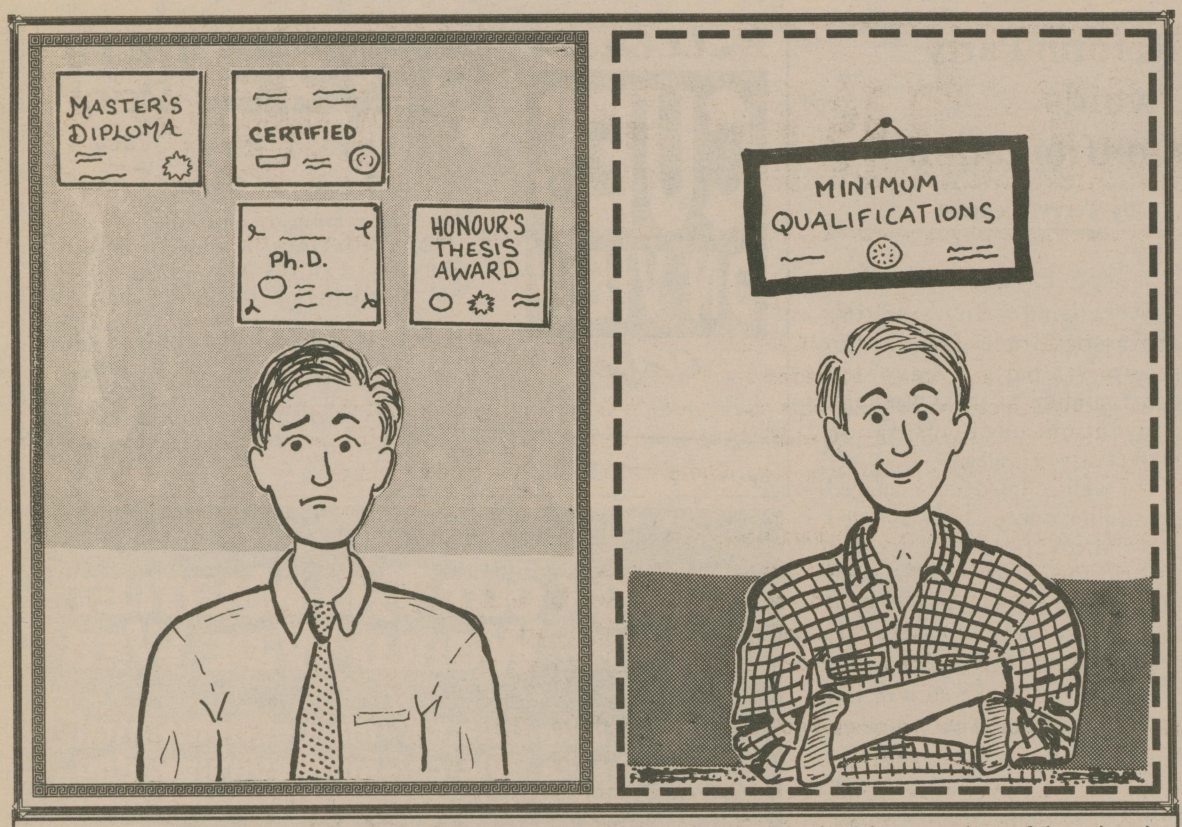

The *Martlet* has an open letters policy and will undertake to print every letter received from members of the university community, with priority to undergraduate students. Letters must be **TYPEWRITTEN** (you can use *Martlet* computers), submitted on disk, or e-mailed, and include your name and phone number for verification. **LETTERS MUST BE 200 WORDS MAXIMUM.** Letters will be reviewed for libel at the *Martlet* editorial meeting, 4 p.m. on the week of publication. Deadline is Monday noon. Letters will be prioritized in the order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed. Letters will not be edited for spelling or grammar. Announcements will be directed to billboards. Letters can be mailed to Box 3035, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C., V8W 3P3, dropped off at SUB B011 or e-mailed to martlet@uvic.ca.

the Martlet

Quote of the week:

" I got tickets to the Garth Brooks show!"

UVSS Director-at-Large, Sebastian Troen

"I wouldn't admit that in public"

UVSS Director of Finance, Conrad Thompson

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A Slow Death...

Editors:

The entire constituency awaits Ida Chong, CGA, MLA. Her purpose must be higher education. The alternative is nothingness: one decimated student population and a slow death for every hopeful student of modest means in this constituency. All that will remain will be the memory of a certain MLA, who through lack of empathy, information and courage brought about the end of equal hope. Instead of providing leadership she provided cowardice.

I encourage you to make the first strokes by sensing with intuition and brilliance. There is no paint by number methodology from which to draw your inspiration. Do not falter. Listen to the voices of all students and give them hope for personal growth and degree completion. Listen to them particularily well and give them access to their inhertitance of knowledge.

Yours Sincerely,
S. Felber

Is It the "Right Shape"?

Editors:

Thank you for expressing your concerns about Gap advertising. We regret that you were offended by our recent "Right Shape" marketing campaign, and take very seriously your comments about eating disorders and malnourishment.

The images we use in our advertising change almost as frequently as the apparel, styles and colors in our stores. Over the years, Gap has unvieled hundreds of ad campaigns, each with a different look and feel. We choose our models–whether they be women, men, children, or even representations of inanimate objects–according to the merchandise we wish to promote and the audience we hope to reach.

Further, we purposely try to reflect the variety of our clothing and the diversity of our customers by employing diverse models; among various other things, we consider characteristics of gender, age, appearance and ethnicity whenever we create our ads. A review of Gap's recent campaigns will bear this out. It has never been our intention to use our advertisments to glorify a certain look or body type, or to promote any form of unhealthy living.

We share your concern about people who, in their pursuit of physical attractiveness, develop unhealthy eating and exercising habits. Please rest assured that Gap does not condone or take lightly such extreme behaviour. Our hearts go out to all people who suffer from such disorders.

Very Truly Yours,
Jonathan Mudd
Public Affairs Department
The Gap

Why Thank-You

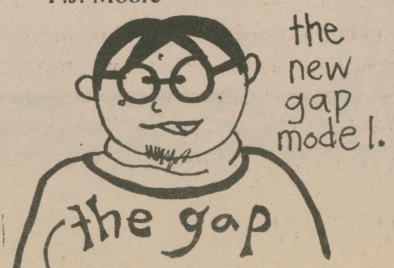
Editors:

It is with great dismay that I make the following statement; "Long live the *Martlet*". I have followed the campus papers for several years, most of those in frustration. I used to think the Martlet was suitable for recycling and that's about it.

Over the past few months, however, I have witnessed the onslaught of other so called newspapers onto the campus and the petty dribble, head petting ooze that makes an excuse for articles in these papers has made me sick.

At least with the *Martlet* I can be reassured that the shit is not spoon-fed mush.

Regretfully yours,
P.J. Moore



EDITORIAL

"Minimum qualifications"–just two words, but they are at the heart of recent disputes over hiring and the reputation of the UVSS as an employer.

According to the current UVSS–United Steelworkers Union contract that is up for bargaining, internal applicants are **"preferred"** for any open hiring.

That means that as long as a union applicant meets the **"minimum qualifications"** for a job they get it over any other applicant — no matter how qualified the other applicants are. Minimum qualifications are detrmined by the Personnel Committee and usually include points such as "ability to work with others."

The **"minimum qualifications"** for having a chance at getting a job should be determined by the quality of the applicants themselves, not by some bureaucratic hiring committee.

The policy should be changed. It should read: "When there are two or more candidates with comparable qualifications the position shall be awarded to the internal applicant. When more than one union employee has comparable qualifications the position shall be awarded to the applicant with the greatest seniority."

There is nothing wrong with people paying their dues; union or otherwise. But students have to know that hiring for open positions is fair and equitable.

Ironically, at the same time the UVSS is implementing constituency group status for disadvantaged groups on the board, it doesn't reflect these goals in their hiring policy.

Preference and seniority should not precede a progressive, equitable policy.

Seniority is entrenched in the collective agreement between the union and the UVSS. There is no room for an equitable hiring policy which would ensure that the staff in the SUB has representation from ALL groups of people on campus. We suggest that if external applicants of comparable qualifications exeed the qualifications of an internal applicant then positions be awarded according to:

1. Employment equity policies to be developed by the board.
2. Student status: jobs should be awarded to those actively completing requirements for a university degree.

Sure, **"comparable"** qualification is subjective–but the message is clear. Students deserve the best **students** working for them.

Sounds complicated? It is. Will anything change? Probably not.

The Labour movement has never been more important, especially in provinces like Ontario. Let's make sure more students can become part of a proud tradition and not be shut out from jobs.

Editorial topics are decided by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at 4 p.m. in the Martlet, *SUB B011. Editorials are written by one or more staff members; opinions are not necessarily those of all staff.*

JUSTICE?..WHAT JUSTICE?..WHERE?

by John Shafer

I've been asked to write something on Gustafsen Lake. It's the night before deadline. Earlier I had a call about new disclosures made in the pre-trial being held in B.C. Supreme Court in Surrey. A police report indicates an officer was advised by his headquarters to "shoot to kill" someone inside the besieged camp who had gone to the lakeside for water. It's nothing new–the whole network of lies is unraveling–the authorities have once again been caught lying. So what else is new? When have they ever told the truth?

It's late and I'm tired and all around me is the detritus of Gustafsen Lake and much of my five years as what? An alternative journalist?–no, just someone who can't believe that any and all consciousness or concern about what happened last summer is so hard to come by. There was no media attending court when the revelation of the sniper came out.

I'm tired and its late and my bed and floor are covered with press clippings, news releases, legal documents, and audio cassettes of mainstream's coverage of the crisis at the TSpeten Sundance Grounds.

It was one of the most beautiful places on earth when I visited last summer–I never felt such peace–now the "authorities" have burned it down to ensure that Lyall James's half million acre ranch is safe. The thought of his cattle shitting all over that ancient sacred place makes me feel sad and angry.

Most of what was said about the stand-off were lies–known to be so by those who told them. So, maybe a little simple truth is in order.

The first truth is that we live in a settler state founded and maintained upon the genocide of indigenous peoples–their nations, their cultures, their resources and their lives. The second truth is that both you and I already know that. Yet you, apparently, have found a way to habituate yourself to it or to deny it while I have not. Perhaps you realize that everything you have, you enjoy because of this ongoing genocide. You would be correct and I would be a hypocritical, hopeless, idealist. Yes? So, no matter how many appalling and terrifying facts, figures, or horror stories I write about how and who Oh-Oh-KKKanada or Brutish KKKolumbia have murdered today(yes, even under the NDP)–it's highly unlikely you'll lift a finger to stop it.

That's why I think it makes more sense for me to get some sleep rather than once again forcing myself to get it up, pretending that this story is going to make any difference. If and when you decide to stop bullshitting yourself about the horrors taking place all around you–name one local reserve? Then, maybe, we can talk, or better yet, act. Because at Gustafsen, when my white sister Susu was blown up by an RCMP mine, then shot by snipers, they were all terrorists, squatters, cultists, anarchists, renegades–and colour didn't matter anymore.

So, when you decide to move from the Sierra Club and trees, owls, seals, whales, or marxism, socialism, or NDPism; then I'll tell you what really happened at Gustafsen Lake. I might even point you in the direction of the next 'crisis'. Maybe we'll go together. Maybe it will be white blood spilled for a change. Maybe we can get some honour back.

In the meantime, my friend Wolverine, who has the wickedest sense of humour, the best political mind, and more patience with racists and colonialists than I'll ever have, sits in a concrete hole–and has been since September. Percy Rosette, Toby and family have been burned out of their home. Flo Ignace, Trond, JoJo, Brent, O.J., Dacajewiah and everyone else has to figure out how they're going to make it through a three month trial in the lower mainland when they live in the Shuswap Territory.

At least JoJo's out on bail. Every time I went to court it was obvious they had beaten him up. The lawyers said it was to get to Wolverine. To try and break him. In 1990-91 they beat up Chubb Pascal so bad they had to keep him hidden in jail until his wounds healed. Beatings are pretty common if you're Indian. So are deaths.

The Canadian public have been and continue to be deeply complicit in the longest and largest ongoing holocaust in human history: That of the indigenous nations of the Americas. Arguably, with trade treaties like NAFTA and FTA, our genocidal reach extends throughout the hemisphere.

Indigenous Peoples are, as it is, "locked in a room with the socio-cultural equivalent of Hannibal Lector." The American Indian Movement supported the Shuswap Defenders. AIM knew that what was happening here was similar to Wounded Knee. AIM knew it was B.C. and Canada that handed Leonard Peltier over to the American FBI for a fixed trial and two double life prison terms. AIM knows that appealing to Lector's sense of justice, honour, or rule of law haven't stopped his psychotic, cannibalistic savagery.

One's liable to get eaten. That's pretty much what happened at the lake last summer. Indigenous people have been attempting to reason with a monster for generations because the monster pretends to be human. But the monster keeps devouring, and increasingly, from Oka to Ipperwash to Gustafsen Lake to Chiapas, talking to the monster is viewed as a dangerous, perhaps pointless activity. Besides, its been tried for 504 years.

So, dear reader, if you're interested in Gustafsen Lake, try the Surrey Supreme Court. Can't afford to go? Neither can anyone else that has to be there. Why not ask the media why they aren't there? Maybe the law school will order court transcripts; maybe the monster will turn out to be human after all.

A kangaroo court is now preparing to pretend that due process exists in this country. Sometime in July a jury in a "secure, anti-terrorist courtroom" in Surrey will try a group of people that I know to be the bravest and best people I have ever met for alleged crimes ranging from attempted murder to trespassing.

Others equally brave and strong-hearted that I do not know across the hemisphere and beyond find themselves in similar situations. Heroes being tried in courts run by criminals. Those of us who know the truth will continue to do the work that must be done. Gustafsen Lake will move on as it has for 504 years and will happen, is happening, again.

My love and deep appreciation for all brothers and sisters in resistance everywhere. **Freedom!**

"Our object is to continue until there is not a single Indian that has not been absorbed into the body politic of Canada and there is no more Indian question. That is the whole purpose of our legislation."
Duncan Campbell Scott
Department of Indian Affairs
1920

"No one can really determine what they want or just what the issues are. We kind of think they're fanatical and they're terrorist–and they seem to want to engage in war for some reason."
RCMP Inspector Len Olfert
August 20, 1995

For further information visit the web site at http://kafka.uvic.ca/~vipirg/SISIS/SISmain.html. or Phone the Ts'peten Defenders at 604-873-6067

Mennonite Rap from "Weird Al"

by Lucas Aykroyd

Bad Hair Day
"Weird Al" Yankovic
Attic Records
1996

Rap about Mennonites? Only from "Weird Al" Yankovic.

The king of novelty rock, who just played Victoria's Royal Theatre, leads off his new CD *Bad Hair Day* with one of his all-time wierdest songs. "Amish Paradise" spoofs "Gangsta's Paradise" by Coolio, merging hip-hop ethics with the outlook of the small Pennsylvania sect.

A local boy kicked me in the butt last week

Lines like: "A local boy kicked me in the butt last week/I just smiled at him and I turned the other cheek," jump out at you.

Amish believers might find the song insulting, since it implies they are dull recluses who hypocritically shun the modern world; but Yankovic knows they can't get back at him because the Amish don't watch TV or listen to radio.

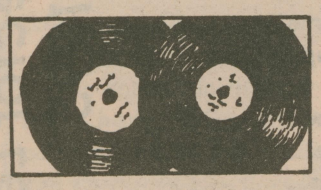
"Weird Al" takes a shot at mainstream Christendom as well. "The Night Santa Went Crazy" is a goofy tale of murder and mayhem at the North Pole.

But *Bad Hair Day* isn't fixated on religious themes. After all, Yankovic gave us "Like A Surgeon" and "Eat It." He mutates U2's "Hold Me, Thrill Me, Kiss Me, Kill Me" into "Cavity Search," a descriptive visit to the dentist. His imitation of Bono's vocal nuances is accurate and alarming.

The "Alternative Polka" is exceptional. Featuring Yankovic's unique brand of accordion thrash, it crams 11 recent hits into 5 minutes of mockery, including "Loser," "You Oughta Know" and "Basket Case."

In general, Weird Al's original tunes can't compare with his parodies. Chirpy-synth flights like "Everything You Know Is Wrong" and "I Remember Larry" lack melodic flavour–you have to follow the lyrics the entire time to stay interested.

Bad Hair Day is good, but some listeners will find that the novelty soon wears off.



A Means to an End with the Afghan Whigs

by Jeff Johnstone

Black Love
The Afghan Whigs
Elektra/Sub Pop
1996

The long awaited follow-up to 1993's acclaimed *Gentleman* offers more of the same from Cincinatti's favourite sons (now based in Seattle), *Black Love* explores the darker side of relationships and exposes the flaws of human nature.

The album is a vehicle for Whig frontman Greg Dulli's sarcastic lyricism on love and betrayal. Celine Dion and Bryan Adams fans be warned: these are not your typical love songs.

For Dulli, love is nothing more than a euphemism for lust and deceit, a pleasant word for the sublimation of physical desire. On "Blame, Etc.," Dulli concedes, "Now I know my heart is being used/But what I'm not allowed to have, I never could refuse . . ./Blame, deny, betray, divide/A lie, the truth/Which one shall I use?"

On "Double Day," he confesses, "If you pretend, then I imitate/My friend, come crucify my heart/I wanna get it on/I wanna get it on." After one listen, it is clear that Dulli was hurt by someone he loved and that he is still bitter.

Dulli's ex-lovers are not the only targets of his attack. On "Honky's Ladder," he exacts revenge on the cause of a failed relationship by addressing "the other man," when singing, "Got u where I want u Motherfucker/I got 5ive up on your dime/And if u wanna peep on something/Peep what I got stuck between/Your eyes/And since I don't believe/A word u say/Save it for another, baby brother/Swallow time 2 pay."

Musically, *Black Love* is not much different than the Whigs' previous efforts. Like *Gentleman*, it boasts polished production, owing to the band's move from Sub Pop to Elektra records. Once again, several tracks are rounded out with string arrangements.

The record also reflects Dulli's continued fascination with the early Motown sound. Songs like "Blame, Etc.," "Going To Town" and "Faded" borrow heavily from soul influences (the Whigs also do a forgettable cover version of Barry White's "Can't Get Enough of Your Love" as the house band in Ted Demme's Beautiful Girls.)

Ultimately, it is Dulli's raspy growl backed by Rick McCollum's grinding guitar work that drive *Black Love*. While not as strong a release as *Gentleman*, it is the perfect way to purge yourself of any ill-feelings for that former special someone, who, say, cheated on you while you were out of the country. Recommended.

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CD Product of the 80's

by Jason Lake

Various Artists
The Ongoing History of New Music Volume One
EMI/Virgin
1996

Next year, Simple Minds will celebrate their 20th anniversary as a band. If this scares you, then you must be a product of the 1980's. You suffered through Olympic boycotts, Reaganomics and Rick Astley. You remember King Richard Brodeur, Rubik's Cube and ColecoVision. You've survived.

Now you can sit back and relive the memories as the first wave of 80's nostalgia arrives in the marketplace. Those of you who haven't hit 20 yet will have to duck as you try to fathom how Duran Duran could have ever been considered even slightly alternative.

"The Ongoing History of New Music" was a documentary aired in 1993 by CFNY in Toronto. Today, call letters are out, so this station is now called "102.1 The Edge". The documentary was highly successful, and has now spun-off into a book and an album of fifteen songs which span the years 1980-1986.

Depending on your age, the size of your allowance and the radio stations you were subjected to in your youth, you may or may not have heard some of these gems. "Gentlemen Take Polaroids" by Japan, for instance, never made the playlist in most areas. Many of these songs, however, made the Top 40: "So In Love" by OMD, "It's My Life" by Talk Talk, and "The Whole of the Moon" by The Waterboys were in heavy rotation for a while.

There is a treasure: "Money" by The Flying Lizards–and a few awful numbers like "Only You," by Flying Pickets. But at least there's no Quiet Riot. If you look at this CD while you're in the record store, you will be compelled to either buy it or burn it..

Vikes Women V-Ballers Announce Hot New Recruits

By Mike Chilton

With the addition of two star recruits, the Vikes women's volleyball squad's chances for a respectable season looks that much better.

On May 29, team coach Jill Fougner announced the recruitment of two of BC's strongest female volleyball players, Becki Edwards, a five-foot-eight setter from Lambrick Park, and Lisa Baylis, a five-foot-nine hitter from Prince George.

Fougner's praise for Becki Edwards most likely comes from her relief that she finally has a strong setter, an element which has been missing from the Vikes' game, most notably last season.

"She definitely reads the game well and is a quick learner," said Fougner on the day of the announcement. "Her athletic talent and knowledge of the game are both key elements when training a setter at the university level."

Becki was the starting setter for Lambrick, where she was named an All-Star honourable mention at last year's Provincial Championships in Vancouver, where the team placed a hard-fought seventh. The team also placed second in the 1994 Provincials.

In the 1993-94 season, Becki s first year with the high school team, Lambrick won the 1993-94 AA Provincial Championships with a great deal of the credit going to her strong leadership.

Her accomplishments are all the more impressive when one considers that Becki was Lambrick s top female athlete from grades eight through 11.

"Becki has good hands and is a good thinker on the court,"said her high school coach, Steve Sran. "She's a well-polished athlete with good decision-making skills."

...Jill Fougner announced the recruitment of two of BC's strongest female volleyball players...

Fougner is also glad that Edwards has now placed her sports focus on volleyball, as it was uncertain until recently which sport she would pursue at the university level, volleyball or basketball. Edwards was also the starting guard and captain of the Lambrick Park hoops squad. Now that Edwards' focus is on volleyball, Fougner feels the improvement of her volleyball game will be tenfold.

Lisa Baylis, who was captain for the College Heights School volleyball team in Prince George for the last three years, is an accurate power-hitter who also played for Team BC for the past two years, and winning two Club Provincial Championships with them. Fougner is elated to obtain Baylis, who many would say was the best player in the province last year.

"I would say Lisa is my number one recruit. Her experience playing for the provincial team will help in her adjustment to university volleyball."

"There were several reasons why I chose UVic," said Baylis, "I loved the surroundings of the campus, I talked to the players and was impressed with what they had to say and when it came down to UVic or SFU, well, I just wanted to play in Canada."

Even More Arts & Entertainment

Vulgar, Just Vulgar...

by Patrick Lane

I spent the weekend in Vancouver performing in the Twisted Improv Tournament. Our troupe, Spilt Milk, sent two teams to the competition. The tournament started on June 10 and continues till the 22. Eighteen teams total competing for the distinction of being the most twisted (and four tickets to Montreal to see Just For Laughs).

The host, Matthew Warburton, is the creative force behind the tournament. Both a writer and performer, he has the distinction of being kicked out of Vancouver theatre sports for being too rude. A self proclaimed stand-up comic, he amused the crowded 8 PM show with such routines as the "Vomit Song" and "What can't you say to your grandmother?"

Accompanying Matthew as side-kick, was Max, a smallish bespectacled man with who bore the brunt of the sarcastic put downs. Used as a constant source of non-entertainment, he unfortunately failed to provide even the smallest amount.

The tournament is being held at the Gas Town Theatre at 26 Powell Street. Word of advice, make sure you know where it is, if you go, because almost everyone didn't know when I asked. It's run by two women, Michale Ascher-General Manager and Katt Twa-Artistic Director.

When asked about the general reaction to some of the more vulgar suggestions given to and from the audience, their response was less than favorable. The pair rent the theater to anyone that can fill the house and have managed to stay open for the past three years. Although, some months they have to stay one step ahead of the landlord.

With projects as diverse as modern opera to the Twisted Improv Tournament, the Gas Town, or Globe Theater, should survive. Although cramped and hot, it does provide an interesting venue, for the right show. It is small enough to provide adequate acoustics without the aid of microphones. This fact was clear to everyone except the host and his side-kick. Fortunately for us, Max and the microphones were both absent from Saturdays night performance, which allowed the evening to pass quicker than the night before.

My team, well it's going to be hard for me to come to turns with not being the most twisted and vulgar, but considering that none of us knew what anal beads were until this weekend, we did O.K.

The highlight of the trip was our stay at The Hotel Vancouver. By using a coupon from Entertainment 96, we were able to get an amazing room for $100.00 plus tax. The place is a palace with many friendly people that are eager to serve. If you ever get the chance to check it out, take your bathing suit and leave your car, as it has no parking lot. We were charged $16.00 a day for parking at the lot next door and $1.50 per phone call. But otherwise, it's perfect.

Bryan Adams Falls Short

by Lucas Aykroyd

18 Til I Die
Bryan Adams
A&M Records
1996

"This is what I've been waiting for?"

As a fan of the real Bryan Adams, I couldn't have reacted any other way after hearing his first studio album in five years, *18 Til I Die.*

I wish someone would tell me that the 36-year-old Vancouver rocker has been kidnapped. That an impostor is behind this massive disappointment.

18 Til I Die is Adams' worst album ever. Unequivocally.

It transforms him into the garish caricature which, in hindsight, lurked beneath the surface of *Waking Up The Neighbours.*

The new album flushes good taste down the toilet. From the cover art to the unfunny innuendos of "I Wanna Be Your Underwear."

His break with his clean-cut hard rock past is disastrous. Nowhere is this more evident than on "Star," the album's major power ballad.

It rehashes "Everything I Do"-isms, set amid whispery vocal textures and an obtrusive Boyz II Men beat.

What really hurts is that he possesses a mastery of song writing craft, yet has little sense of what to do with it.

Mile-long titles like "The Only Thing That Looks Good On Me Is You" are the order of the day. Meat Loaf could sue for trademark infringement.

There's no classic melody like "Summer Of '69" or "Cuts Like A Knife" here.

I'll predict that in years to come, Adams will view *18 Til I Die* as an embarrassment.

Don't buy it. He needs to be taught a lesson.

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Benefit Concert The Linden Singers of Victoria. 8:00pm Metropolitan United Church, Quadra & Pandora. June 22.

Lions Society of BC presents the **Vancouver Island 24 Hour Relay for the Kids.** 10 am Saturday, June 22 to10 am Sunday, June 23 @ Centennial Stadium, University of Victoria. Sponsors and supporters are welcome.

•Ongoing•

The Sculpture's Guild of Vancouver Island presnts a sculpture show at the Old Cement Plant, Bamberton. Running until June 30. Info: 743-0803.

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Phoenix Summer Theatre presents three diverse, intense, and controversial pieces of theatre in Repertory, June 4th through 29th.

The 24 Carrot Country Market will be held in Sidney at the Sanscha Hall Field every Sunday from 10am till 2pm, June 16-Sept 29. Info: 656-4444.

November 13, 1996, is the date of this year's **UVic Women's Conference**. The title, Common Ground: Uncommon People, reflects the diversity of women in their roles, beliefs, ages and experiences. The conference will acknowle the contribution of women (students, staff and faculty) within UVic. The awards committee will accept formal nominations at the start of the fall term. Anyone interested in participating in conference planning can contact Carel Wilkin at 384-3559 or Denise Lunger at 721-7939.

Christopher Moore/Jeremy Stanbridge. Painting Exhibition. June 20 to July 13, 1996. **Open Space** Gallery. 510 Fort Street. Info: 383-8833.

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•Hey You!!•

The fat-skinny man has no idea of the torment to come.

No matter how small, a thumbnail is still a miracle.

Congrads to Kelly and Chad!!

Ellen-see ya in November for "our day"- Pesha

Una Paloma Blanca - I'm just a bird in the sky!!

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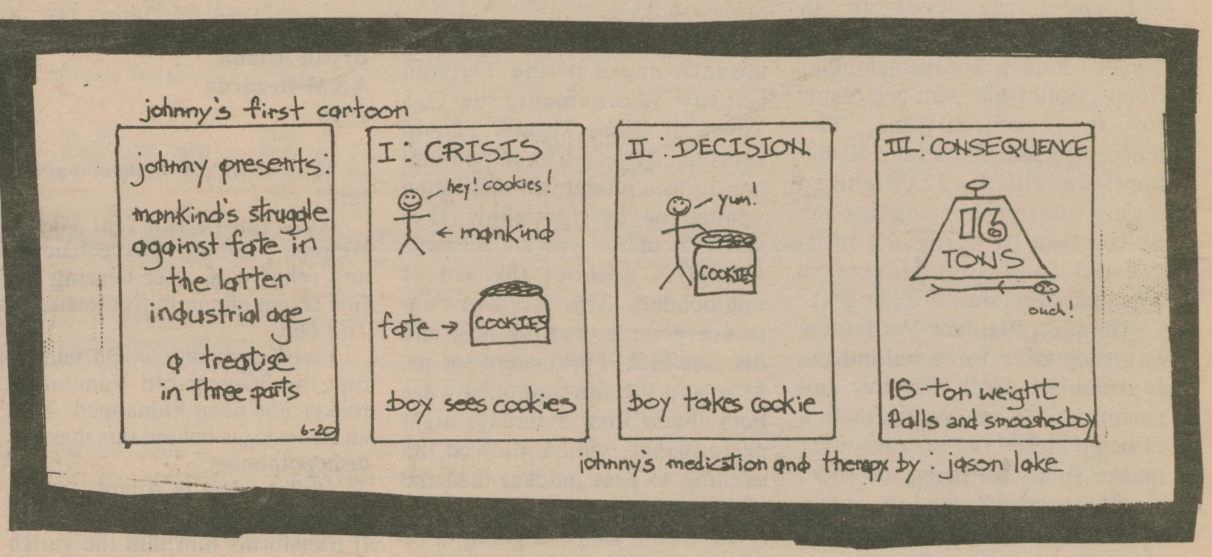
Comix

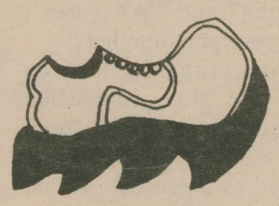
all i know... is that, there were rumours, he was in to
field hockey players...
there were rumours.
i went out for the team.
it was like... so hush hush. they were so... quiet about it.
and then the next thing you know...
they kissed until they were dead.
end.

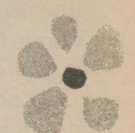


• comic submitter: jason lake

• thankful to have received a submission: lyndsay

• girl who did drawing on left: lyndsay





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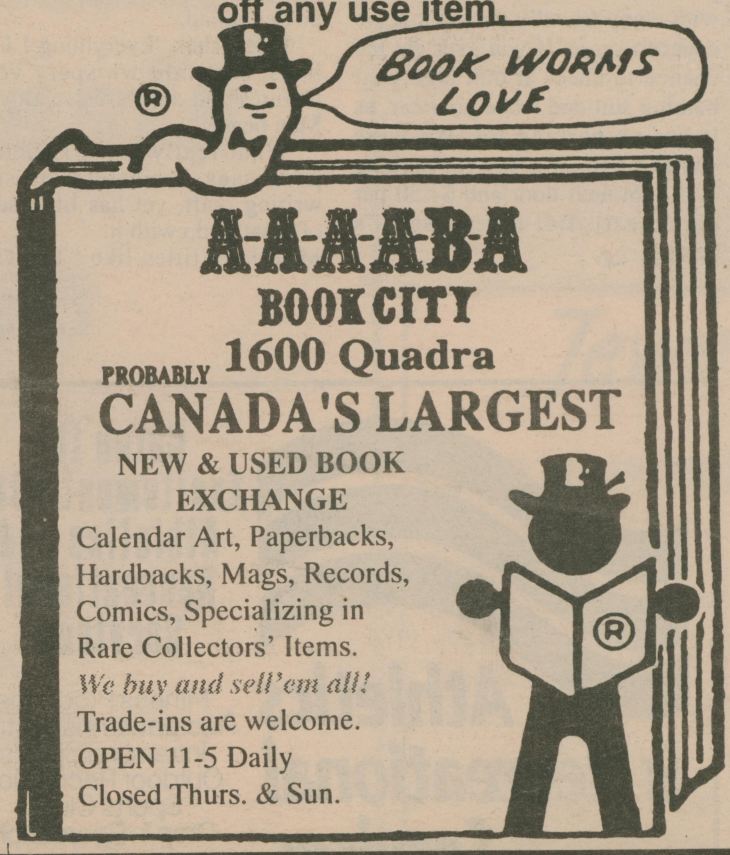
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